registered lands as the merits of each case require for the beneficial enjoyment of the registered holdings. But it is not possible to lay down hard and fast rules that precisely one furlong, neither more nor less, should be allowed in each case. The Forest Department, as I told you before, will deal with each such case on its merits.

Then you ask for three forest reserves to be forthwith disafforested. In respect of one of these, you made the same representation two years ago and received a polite *non-possumus* at the hands of Government. I should like to repeat it again, if possible more politely.

Then you speak about the establishment of a timber depot in the Todupuzha town. The Conservator is anxious to take up at once the examination of the question as to the desirability and feasibility of establishing a timber depot in the neighbourhood you advocate.

MEMBER: The disafforestation of these reserves will be necessary as wild elephants and pigs are doing havoc.

DEWAN: I shall ask the District Magistrate to consider sympathetically an application from you to keep fire-arms so that you may meet some of the troubles you get from wild pig and other animals.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 2-5 P. M. and re-assembled at 3 P. M.

**15. Hardships caused to the public owing to the present constitution and working of the civil courts and the means of remedying them.**

MR. KANDA KURUP KALI KURUP (*Member, Chirayinkil taluk, Group I*) said that the public were put to great inconvenience on account of irregularities in the working of civil courts. In the first place, there were the extortions of the Amins and the peons in the execution of decrees. Strict supervision by the superior officers was the proper remedy for this. Every instance of misconduct on the part of an Amin or a peon should be taken note of in a register kept for the purpose. The register should be examined once a month by the local officer and as often as possible by the superior officers on inspection. Process peons and Amins should also be transferred once in three years. In the matter of confirming these subordinates also some discrimination should be made. Only such persons as had proved good character should be given permanent posts. In this connection, the member illustrated the high-handedness of some Amins by referring to an instance (C. 193 of 103 on the file of the Attingal Munsiff's Court) in which an Amin issued summons to a person without the order of the court.

Secondly, the member had to complain about the delay in the delivery of judgments by Munsiffs. As a remedy for this, he suggested that monthly statements should be obtained by the High Court from each Munsiff, showing the number of cases in which final hearing was over, but in which judgments had not been delivered. On examination of these statements every instance of delay, unless due to sufficient reasons, should be taken severe notice of.

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Another irregularity which the member pointed out was in regard to the adjournment of cases. It often happend that a case was adjourned for the examination of a particular party. An entry to this effect would be made in the diary. But the actual person examined on the day would not be the party, but witnesses on whichever side the Munsiff chose. The appellate courts seldom took notice of such irregularities.

As regards filing of affidavits, the member suggested that one of two alternative courses should be adopted. Either the number of persons before whom affidavits could be sworn should be increased or the number of applications to be supported by affidavits should be reduced.

In regard to the examination of parties and witnesses, the member pointed out that sometimes even though a witness was present in court he was not called or examined, and then proceedings would be started against him for non-compliance with the summons of the court. Warrant would be issued against him for arrest and his property would be placed under attachment. In such cases, the amin would exact a good amount from the poor person. A similar case occurred in recent times in the Munsiff's Court, Attingal. In C. 583 of 97 on the file of that court, on the day fixed for examination the second defendant in the suit attended the court and was present there till evening, but when he returned home, warrant was issued against him for non-attendance and he was arrested.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kali Kurup, and other members who have sent up subjects regarding the administration of justice, in particular civil justice, I see there are no less than nine members who wish to make representations on the subject. I shall hear all the members before I make a reply on the subject. So I propose taking these subjects relating to administration of justice tomorrow morning and not to-day.

**16. Adoption of measures to prevent the manufacture and sale of spurious and adulterated tea.**

MR. ALBERT J. WRIGHT (*Member, Kannan Devan Planters' Association*) said that the subject he had taken up was one which concerned not only the Kannan Devan Planters' Association and the other tea producing interests in the State but also the entire industry throughout the Indian Empire, more particularly the portion of it which was located in the Madras Presidency.

The subject called for consideration from at least two destinct points of view: first, the unscrupulous exploitation of one of the most valuable industries of the State, and secondly the menace to public health from the consumption of rubbish which it ought not to be possible to place on the market. The planting community had done a great deal to help itself in this matter. In the manufacture of tea, a certain amount of residue remained which was classified as tea fluff or tea waste and factory sweepings. Though actually tea, it was considered undesirable to market it as such for a considerable number of years and by far the greater portion of it was now sold only on a guarantee that it would not be used for human consumption but for chemical purposes

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